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SERVICE DATE – OCTOBER 14, 2016

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. FD 35522

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.—ACQUISITION OF OPERATING EASEMENT—GRAND
TRUNK WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY

Decided: October 14, 2016

As discussed in a decision served in this docket on October 7, 2016, the Board is concerned about lengthy street blockages, malfunctioning signals, and other issues involving a rail segment in Chicago known as the Elsdon Line. CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT), which operates over the line pursuant to an operating easement, is directed to take part in a technical conference with Board staff at the Board's offices at 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT) on Friday, October 21, 2016.

The following representatives of CSXT, at a minimum, are required to participate in the conference: a principal with authority to bind the railroad and appropriate technical personnel, including the appropriate division superintendent and division signal manager. The participants will discuss how CSXT will ensure that the line is clear before entering the line, the methods for expeditiously handling gate malfunction reporting and repairs, the operating protocols CSXT has with other carriers relating to the line, CSXT's refusal to cut trains blocking a public crossing for more than 10 minutes, and CSXT's timeline and plans for improving operations on the line. The Board expects CSXT to use this meeting as an opportunity to communicate a clear, timely, and accountable approach toward addressing the operational problems on the line. The City of Chicago and the Village of Evergreen Park may send representatives to the meeting or participate by telephone. The technical conference will be transcribed, and a transcript of the conference will be placed in the public docket.

CSXT shall file a letter providing the names and positions of persons participating in the meeting by October 18, 2016, and indicating whether their participation will be in person or by telephone. CSXT participants located in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, including counsel for CSXT, must participate in person. If the City of Chicago and the Village of Evergreen Park wish to participate in the conference, they will also be directed to submit letters by that date identifying the participants and indicating whether their participation will be in person or by telephone.

For further information, contact: Scott M. Zimmerman (202) 245-0386.

It is ordered:

1. A technical conference with Board staff is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. (EDT) on Friday, October 21, 2016, at the Board's headquarters at 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423.

2. CSXT is directed to file a letter providing the names and positions of persons participating in the conference, and indicating whether their participation will be in person or by phone, by October 18, 2016. CSXT participants located in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, including counsel for CSXT, must participate in person.

3. If the City of Chicago and the Village of Evergreen Park wish to participate in the conference, they shall file a letter providing the names and positions of the participants, and indicating whether their participation will be in person or by phone, by October 18, 2016.

4. This decision is effective on its date of service.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.